

***Remarks***

***I. Status of the Claims***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 4-17 and 24-38 are pending in the application, with claims 4, 11, 24, 30, 32, 34 and 36 being the independent claims. Claims 1-3 and 18-23 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

***II. Amendments to the Specification***

***Cross-Reference to Related Applications***

Applicants have amended the paragraph captioned "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" to specify that the present application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/560,883, filed April 28, 2000. The amendment therefore introduces no new matter.

***Sequence Listing***

A Request to Open New Disk File and a paper copy of a sequence listing are being submitted concurrently herewith. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(f), the paper copy of the Sequence Listing and the computer readable copy of the Sequence Listing submitted

with parent application No. 09/560,883 are the same. Support for the Sequence Listing can therefore be found throughout the specification and in the Sequence Listing filed with the parent application.

The specification has been amended to direct the entry of the Sequence Listing at the end of the application.

***III. Conclusion***

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for immediate examination. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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